## NOTES IN LONDON STREETS.*

*Park-lane* was formerly called Tyburn-lane. The large house at the south-west corner, now inhabited by her royal highness the Duchess of Gloucester, was formerly in the occupation of the Earl of Elgin. Here were first exhibited the famous marbles which will ever bear his lordship's name. Byron, in his "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers," written at a time when he felt inclined to sneer and carp at every thing, calls this house "a stone shop," and

"General mart
For all the mutilated works of art."

In the year 1816, Parliament voted the sum of 35,000*l.* for the purchase of the marbles, and they were removed from their former place of exhibition to the British Museum, where they remain fine studies, accessible to English artists; but enduring mementos of a very unworthy cupidity (?)

*Piccadilly.*—The house No. 133 was built by the late Duke of Queensberry for the celebrated Kitty Frederick. The first house on the right hand was, it is said, designed by George III., to whom are also attributed the designs for the Trinity House on Tower-hill, and the Office of Ordnance, which formerly stood in Margaret-street, at the east end of St. Margaret's Church, but which was demolished during the alterations completed in that part of Westminster about the year 1822. The ground behind the opposite houses, between the back of Lord Coventry's, No. 106, and the south side wall of the Earl of Chesterfield's garden, in Curzon-street, was, in 1772, an irregular space; "Mayfair-row" and "Hayhill-row" being at that time the only regular buildings. The ground upon which Hertford-street, Curzon-street, Shepherd's Market, &c., stand, was annually for many years covered with booths during the period of May Fair.

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*Shepherd's Market*, still in use, was named after the ground landlord, who built and resided in that long white mansion on the north side of Curzon-street, for many years inhabited by Lady Fane, and afterwards by Lady Reade, who died in it. The surrounding ground, now so completely covered by the houses of the noble and the wealthy, was in 1750 so little esteemed, that Mr. Shepherd offered his freehold mansion, just alluded to, and gardens for the small sum of 500*l.* However, after the death of Lady Reade, this house and gardens were purchased by Lord Carhampton for about 500*l.*; and his lordship, after making considerable improvements, sold it to the present Lord Wharncliffe, then Mr. Stuart Wortley, the member for the county of York, for the sum of 12,000*l.*

The house on the left in Piccadilly was built by Novosielski for the late Earl of Barrymore, but was unfinished at his death, and remained so for many years, until it was taken as a hotel. It has been rendered memorable ever since the royal visitors, the Emperor of Russia and the late Queen of Wirtemburg, then Duchess of Oldenburg, resided in it during their stay in London. It was then kept by Escudier, and is now styled, "The Pulteney and Russian Imperial Hotel."

*Half Moon-street* was built in 1730, as appears by that date on the south-west corner house. Its name was taken from the Half Moon public-house, which stood at the corner. Clarges-street, originally called "Clarges-street, in Hayhill-row," was built by Sir Walter Clarges.

Few persons, from the appearance of Piccadilly front, could have been aware of the extensive premises of Bath House, standing, until the year 1821, at the south-west corner of Bolton-row. It contained upwards of fifty excellent rooms, besides numerous servants' offices and capacious cellars. The ceiling of the library was richly carved with foilage, and most splendidly gilt; its chimneypiece could not have cost less than between 600*l.* and 700*l.*; it was of the finest Carrara marble, and was profusely decorated with fruit and flowers. The foliated panels of the staircase were adorned with busts of Homer, Cicero, Seneca, &c. The mansion was taken down in 1821, and a most substantial house erected upon its site for the present Lord Ashburton, then Mr. Baring.

* Condensed from "An Antiquarian Ramble in the Streets of London." By the late John Thos. Smith. Bentley.

*Whitehall.*—With the male line of the Stuarts ended the glories of Whitehall. On the 10th of April, 1691, a fire broke out in the apartments formerly occupied by the Duchess of Portsmouth, which burned down all that range of buildings to the waterside, and all those over the large stone gallery. They were never rebuilt; and another conflagration, more extensive, which broke out about seven years afterwards, completed the ruin the first had began. Sir Christopher Wren had apartments in the palace in right of his office of Surveyor-General, which were burnt with the rest. Sir Christopher was very anxious in his endeavours to save the palace, and when that became hopeless, the valuable pictures and works of art which it contained.

*The Horse Guards* is the work of Nardy, the same architect to whom we owe the front of Earl Spencer's mansion in the Green-park.

*Melbourne House*, adjoining the Horse Guards, was built by Payne, the architect, for Sir Matthew Featherstonebaugh. It was for many years inhabited by General Amherst, and afterwards by Frederick, Duke of York, who exchanged it with the late Lord Melbourne for his house in Piccadilly. The Duke of York made considerable improvements in it under the superintendence of Holland, the architect, who built a new front to it, and the dome portico across the street. It is now inhabited by Lady Dover. A few yards south of it, anciently stood the gate said to have been designed by Hans Holbein for Henry VIII. (engraved by G. Vertue, and published by the Society of Antiquaries).

The offices of the Treasury are contiguous. The old grey remnant of a building which forms part of the suite is supposed to be the only remaining portion of Wolsey's original mansion of York-place. The park front that reaches to the extremity of Downing-street, with which there is communication leading to the park by a low arched passage, was built from the design of Keot, and consists of three stories of the Tuscan, Doric, and Ionic styles of architecture.

## NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

The Government works at Harwich harbour, notwithstanding the advent of winter, have been progressing uninterruptedly, both as regards the erection of the stone breakwater from the cliff, and the deepening of the channels by means of steam dredging. Mr. Williams, the contractor, has lately added a steam tug, to assist still further in forwarding the work.——Contracts for a fever hospital are to be entered into at Bedford, when the whole amount of the cost, about 2,000*l.*, has been subscribed; meantime plans and estimates are to be prepared.——At Liverpool, on Monday week, Mr. Cunningham, the architect, lectured to the Literary and Philosophical Society, on the geological conformation of the vicinity of Liverpool as regards the supply of water; from which it appears that artesian, or other subterranean borings for water, would be there a hopeless labour. The collection of surface water, over an area of 70 to 80 square miles, from the valley opposite Runcorn, was recommended, as a full supply from the Liverpool district itself was deemed impossible. The Rivington pike scheme was unfavourably regarded, on account of the adulteration of the water by dye-works, smoke, peat, &c.——The new bridge to connect Birkenhead and Seacombe has been commenced. Its gates are upwards of 70 feet wide. In the Bridge-end dock wall, 14 or 15 sluices, adjoining the great float to the river side, have been already erected. These will give a scouring power equal to that of 9,000 men, when in operation by the agency of steam. The completion of this bridge is required by the Woods and Forests previous to the docks being opened, and as part payment for the grant of land for graving docks. The opening will thus be delayed till March or April next. One of the gates to the new Bridge-end dock was lately put up.——A Cambrian Archæological Association has been established.——The inhabitants of Oldham are taking steps for the formation of parks and places of recreation, to which Government have already contributed 1,000*l.*——A correspondent of the *Manchester Courier* urges his fellow-townsmen to the good work of building a cathedral for their expectant bishop. "They have wealth, they have power, they have talents," says he, and "why not devote them to the glory of God?"——It has been determined to complete the Doncaster new town-hall by next Michaelmas sessions. Estimates have already been called for.——Of 9,000*l.*, the cost of five or six national school-houses erected at Bradford, churchmen have contributed only 639*l.*; and of 6,000*l.*, the cost of three Lancasterian school-houses also erected there, 5,000*l.* and upwards were contributed by dissenters. A contemporary suggests that the churchmen must be asleep at Bradford; but is it not far more likely that there are few churchmen there, either asleep or awake, compared with the number of dissenters? Perhaps it is the clergy of the establishment that are asleep.——At Kendal, Mr. John Wakefield is said to have offered 500*l.* towards the erection of a vicarage-house, on condition that a like sum is added by Trinity College.——The interesting old walls of Berwick are gradually wearing away by means of frost, rain, and mischievous dilapidation. The Board of Ordnance will surely at length awake to the propriety of redeeming these distinguished relics of the olden times from ruin; a few pounds at present would suffice.——The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has intimated to the National Art-Union of Ireland, that steps have been taken by the Government towards the establishment of schools of design in Ireland.

## SOME RESULTS OF GAS LIGHTING.

In one of a course of lectures on coal gas, by Mr. Headley, before alluded to by us, the lecturer drew attention to some of the benefits which have resulted to the world from gas-lighting. He said:—The celebrated and well-known article, Mackintosh's waterproof cloth, is one. The product of the distillation or manufacture of coal into gas is naptha or coal oil; this was found by Mr. Mackintosh to possess the invaluable property of dissolving India-rubber (caoutchouc)—a desideratum that scientific men had been seeking for ages, from its great importance in the arts and manufactures; and the knowledge and use of this property has given rise not only to the rendering cloths waterproof, but to the innumerable uses to which India-rubber, in a solvent state, is now applied; and amongst other elastic contrivances to which it is applicable, we have rather a curious one, superseding the lawyer's red tape—and it may now truly be said, he ties up his papers by a "gas tape."

We have next the application of gas to lace-making. Messrs. G. F. Urling and Company took out a patent for this invention, and which has been wonderfully successful and productive. The operation is this,—instead of running the lace over a red-hot iron roller, as heretofore, it is drawn over or through a gas flame; and the superior effect desired, of entirely freeing it from the flew or flough of the thread, is attained, as the flame of the gas actually passes into the meshes of the lace, and most perfectly accomplishes the object, and in an extremelly beautiful and effective manner.

Hot-blast, too, for smelting iron, may be said to be another attribute of the knowledge of gas; for its inventor, the talented J. B. Neilson, was the engineer and manager of the Glasgow Gas-works; and, in that capacity, made, in conjunction with the late Mr. Mackintosh, a great number of experiments—not only with reference to his water-proofing, but also to carbonising iron, by means of gas tar, and thus converting it into steel; and there can be little doubt, that during some of these experiments, the idea was created of applying heated air to the making and smelting of iron, now of such vast importance and consequence to the country. There are other applications, too, of gas—such as motive power to a steam-engine, patented by Mr. Brown—and the practical acquaintance with it has led even to the introduction of the atmospheric railway—Pinkus and Clegg, the originators of this principle, being both gas engineers. Thus, we may exclaim with the poet, "What mighty ends from minor causes spring."

The Adelphi Theatre is about to be rebuilt on a larger scale; adjoining properties have been purchased for that purpose.

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